

**TRAFFIC BOARD MEETING 1013**  
**Minutes**  
**Planning Conference Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, City Hall**  
**Thursday, January 14, 2016**

**Call to Order.** Called to order at 10:02 a.m. by William Yeager, Assistant Chief BPD

**Traffic Board Members Present:** William Yeager, Assistant Chief BPD; Giovanni Scaringi, Councilman; Terry Kellogg, DPW Commissioner, Ray Standish, Engineering.

**Traffic Board Members Absent:** None

**Also Present:** Sgt. Dave Petryszyn, BPD Traffic; William Lescault, BPD Traffic; Dan Correll, Retired BPD; Katherine Davis, Principal Clerk; Tom Sullivan, BMTS; Mark Tanner, Zoning

**Approval of Minutes.** Request to approve the minutes **Traffic Board Meeting 1012, held on Thursday, November 12, 2015.**

Moved by: T. Kellogg, W. Yeager

**Motion carried. (Vote 4-0-0)**

Ayes: Yeager, G. Scaringi, T. Kellogg, R. Standish

Nays: None

Absent: None

**Items Considered**

**5 Rowe Avenue.** Mr. Gordon Bloom requested a “no parking here to corner” sign so that residents can get up the street when there is snow fall. Assistant Chief Yeager got a phone number from Mr. Bloom and Mr. Kraham will let him know what the outcome is.

*The Traffic Division responded to the area of Rowe Avenue to review a request from Mr. Gordon Bloom of 5 Rowe Avenue through Assistant Chief William Yeager to have No Parking Here to Corner signs installed on Rowe Avenue to prohibit parking on that street from Kane Avenue east. Rowe Avenue is a short and narrow dead-end street that runs from Kane Avenue east. There are several homes along both sides of the street, all with curb cut and parking access to their residence. The beginning section of the street is curb lined and appears to have no need for on street parking along either side of the street. Mr. Bloom’s concern of a bottle neck at the end of the street, especially during a heavy snow storm or unregulated parking events in that area, may be justified. The Traffic Division therefore recommends that the Traffic Code be amended as follows:*

INSERT: *No Parking Anytime Zones (Section 23)*

*Rowe Avenue – North Side – from Kane Avenue to 80 feet east.*

*Rowe Avenue – South Side – from Kane Avenue to 80 feet east.*

***Motion to insert No Parking Anytime Zones (Section 23).***

Moved by: T. Kellogg, R. Standish

**Motion carried. (Vote 4-0-0)**

Ayes: W. Yeager, G. Scaringi, T. Kellogg, R. Standish

Nays: None

Absent: None

**Kane Avenue.** Mr. Gordon Bloom also requested “one side parking” on this street because it is a safety issue. Cars and emergency vehicles have a difficult time getting through on this road. **Traffic will put the request in.**

**Mary Street and Sherwood Avenue.** Ms. Marcia Huntoon of 152 Mary Street is requesting a barrier or guide rail to protect her property at the corner of Mary Street and Sherwood Avenue. She indicated that the request is based on numerous accidents and near accidents at that location. Traffic board requested additional follow-up with Ms. Huntoon. Mr. Correll reported that there were only two incidents at this location and it had nothing to do with the cars coming down the hill. The Traffic Division does not see a reason for a barricade at this location. Mr. Perkins asked why the stop signs are on Sherwood Avenue and not Mary Street when Mary Street is the more traveled route. He will take a drive to look at this location and Ms. Paddick will look into counts (in May) for this intersection as well. Mr. Perkins reported that he will have the data by the August Mtg. Mr. Holmes reported that he tried to explain to Ms. Huntoon that even a guiderail may not prevent a car from going onto her property. So he reluctant to keep adding pieces of guiderail which only creates a false sense of security. Mr. Holmes and Mr. Correll will look into this intersection again, together. Traffic and Engineering will look into and report back. **Jared will inform Ms. Huntoon of the Traffic Board's final decision.**

*"The Traffic Division submitted the attached correspondence from Franco Incitti, Senior Engineer, City of Binghamton, for a Marcia Huntoon, 152 Mary Street, requesting a barrier or guide rail to protect her property at the corner of Mary Street and Sherwood Avenue. Ms. Huntoon indicated in the correspondence that the request is based on numerous accidents and near accidents at that location. City Engineer Incitti suggest an additional stop sign on the north east corner for Sherwood Avenue as a solution. The Traffic Division responded to that intersection to review the terrain. Mary Street and Sherwood Avenue is a two way stop intersection for north bound and south bound traffic on Mary Street. Sherwood is a steep grade up and down through street for east and west bound traffic. There is an adequate line of sight for the north and south bound traffic to observe through traffic. 152 Mary Street is a home on the north west corner of that intersection that sits lower than the street. The Traffic Division, upon reviewing reported incidents at that intersection from January 1, 2012 to present date, found no reports on file of any traffic incidents. A further review of 152 Mary Street individually found two reports concerning this address. The first report, January 16, 2014, involved a south bound vehicle on Mary Street veering off the road and crossing over her property and continuing through to Sherwood Avenue. The second report, originally reported as an accident on February 15, 2014, involved an abandoned vehicle stuck in a snow bank on Mary Street. No direction of travel or damage listed. No accident involved. The Traffic Division therefore upon finding no incidents at that location to support the need of a barrier recommends that none be inserted. It also finds no basis to insert an additional stop control for the east bound traffic as suggested by the city engineer."*

**Motion to not make the requested changes at the intersection of Mary Street and Sherwood Avenue per Traffic's research and recommendation.**

Moved by: T. Kellogg, R. Standish

**Motion carried. (Vote 4-0-0)**

Ayes: W. Yeager, G. Scaringi, T. Kellogg, R. Standish

Nays: None

Absent: None

**Truesdell Street.** The Traffic division is looking into making one side of the street "no parking." Mr. Correll reported that it is currently parking on both sides. The south side (where houses are located) would have parking and the north side would be no parking (where there are no houses). Mr. Kraham would like to discuss this further with Parks and Recreation since Cheri Lindsey Park is so close to this location. Mr. David White recently heard that the street is going to be made one side parking on the south side of the street. The residents would like this to be on the North side rather than the south side. Assistant Chief Yeager got a phone number from Mr. White and Mr. Kraham and will let him know what the outcome is. Traffic recommends that the parking be on the South side of the street, not the North.

**Brownson Ave and Bevier Street.** Removal of Traffic signal. The DOT would like this light to be replaced with a four way stop because the traffic light is not in good working order and could possibly be hit by a passing truck at some point. Mr. Kraham is concerned about the removal of this light because there is a school at that location. He noted that should be considered in making the final decision. Ms. Paddick and Traffic will look into this and report back. Ms. Paddick reported that because the school was in this location, there is currently a light there and that is the only reason. Otherwise it would have been removed. BMTS will do a site visit and report back at the November meeting. Mr. Kraham will contact DOT Mr. Ron Borgna is concerned about the removal of this light. He and his neighbors do not want this light removed due to safety issues. Ms. Paddick explained that the NYDOT might pay for this light to get

fixed because so much traffic is being forced through this intersection due to the highway construction. She also noted that the BMTS has requested that the light not be removed but that a different type of signal be used because the school is so close. Traffic recommends that this light not be removed due to the school in the area. Until Traffic hears back from Mr. Borgna, no changes will be made. **Hold until Thursday, February 11, 2015 Traffic Board meeting.**

**Riverside Drive Parking Update.** Mr. Gary Holmes requested the Riverside Drive from Helen Street to the city line be "No Parking". He further recommended that dedicated buck lines could be installed which would support bicycle traffic. Traffic will look into this further and report back in November. Traffic recommended the following:

*The Traffic Division responded to the area of Riverside Drive between Beethoven Street and the Johnson City Line to review the recently updated street construction project that included the installation of curbing to both the north and south sides of the street. The street in the past did not have curbing on either side of the road. Motorists were allowed to pull off the road way and park on the shoulder of the street. However, with the new construction, it appears that this practice will have to be limited, if not abandoned.*

*Riverside Drive is a heavily traveled main east-west through between the Johnson City Traffic Circle (Route 201) and the North Shore Drive (Route 363). It is mostly residential along both sides of the street, but also houses Lourdes Hospital, a large multi-medical facility with ambulance access. The roadway width through the above mentioned Riverside Drive area is 30 feet wide. Prior to the insertion of the curbing motorists were able to pull off the roadway and park on the shoulder without hindering the traffic flow. With the curb line installed, it narrows the passage way with one side parking so that motorists must cross the center line of the road to proceed and if vehicles are parked on both sides of the roadway across from each other it reduces the passage even more so that an opposite direction motorist may have to pause to allow one lane movement to the other direction. The Traffic Division feels that this issue should be addressed as follows:*

**DELETE:** Section 23 – No Parking Anytime Zone

*Riverside Drive – South – From Lourdes Road to Rotary Avenue.*

*Riverside Drive – South – From Rotary Avenue to 55 feet west of Kneeland Avenue*

*Riverside Drive – North - From Crestmont Road to a point 50' west.*

**INSERT:** Section 23 – No Parking Anytime Zone

*Riverside Drive – South – From Lourdes Road to Johnson City Line*

*Riverside Drive – North – From Helen Street to Crestmont Road*

*Riverside Drive – North – From Crestmont Road to Matthews Street*

*Riverside Drive – North – From Matthews Street to Crary Avenue.*

*Riverside Drive – North – From Crary Avenue to Briar Court.*

*Riverside Drive – North – From Briar Court to West End Avenue.*

*Riverside Drive – North – From West End Avenue to Patricia Street.*

*Riverside Drive – North – From Patricia Street to Johnson City Line.*

**Motion to make changes recommended by Traffic.**

Moved by: T. Kellogg, R. Standish

**Motion carried. (Vote 4-0-0)**

Ayes: W. Yeager, G. Scaringi, T. Kellogg, R. Standish

Nays: None

Absent: None

**Riverside Drive.** North and South side from Front Street to Beethoven Street. Traffic recommends the following:

*The Traffic Division responded to Riverside Drive to review the parking regulations on the north and south sides of the street between Front Street and Beethoven Street to assure that all signs that are posted are in compliance with the Traffic Code or need to be updated or added to assure the safe and unobstructed use of the roadway. The Traffic Division upon completion of the survey recommends the following changes to the Traffic Code as follows:*

**DELETE:** No Parking Anytime Zone (Section 23)

*Riverside Drive – South Side – From Front Street to 390 west.*

**INSERT:** No Parking Anytime Zones (Section 23)

*Riverside Drive – North Side – From Murray Street to 50 feet west.*

*Riverside Drive – North Side – From Chapin Street to 50 feet east.*

*Riverside Drive – North Side – From Chapin Street to St. John Avenue.*

*Riverside Drive – North Side – From St. John Avenue to Chestnut Street.*

*Riverside Drive – North Side – From Millard Avenue to 60 west.*

*Riverside Drive – North Side – From Laurel Avenue to Beethoven Street.*

*Riverside Drive – South Side – From Avon Road to Laurel Avenue*

*Riverside Drive – South Side – Campbell Road to Chapin Street.*

*Riverside Drive – South Side – From Murray Street to 60 feet east.*

*Riverside Drive – South Side – From Oak Street to 60 feet west.*

*Riverside Drive – South Side – From Oak Street to 32 feet east.*

*Riverside Drive – South Side – From 228 feet east of Oak Street to Front Street.*

**AMEND:** No Parking Anytime Zone (Section 23)

*Riverside Drive – Both Sides – From Avon Road to Stratford Place to read from South Side only.*

*Riverside Drive – Both Sides – From Stratford Place to Beethoven Street to read from Stratford Place to Lourdes Road, South Side only.*

*Riverside Drive – North Side – From Laurel Avenue to 60 feet east and west to read east, only.*

**AMEND:** Handicapped Parking Zone (Section 22.3(2))

*Riverside Drive – South Side - From 130' east of Oak Street to 185' east to read from 117 feet east of Oak Street to 185 east.*

**Motion to make changes recommended by Traffic.**

Moved by: T. Kellogg, R. Standish

**Motion carried. (Vote 4-0-0)**

Ayes: W. Yeager, G. Scaringi, T. Kellogg, R. Standish

Nays: None

Absent: None

**Jackson Street and Broome Street.** “No Parking Zones” at the intersection of Jackson and Broome St. Traffic will look into this further and report back in November. Traffic reported that 30 foot cutbacks are acceptable but anything beyond that is not. Due to lack of information from this complainant, Traffic sees no reason to make a change here. No Parking signs do need to be posted. DPW will notified to replace missing “No Parking” signs.

**South Washington Street.** One side parking only between James Street and Morris Street. Traffic recommends following:

*“The Traffic Division received the attached e-mail from Jared Kraham, Chairperson, Traffic Board, requesting a review of the two side of the street parking on South Washington Street between James Street and Morris Street and being studied for one side parking only. The Traffic Division responded to that area to observe that north-south roadway. The street is about 28 feet wide with approximately seven foot wide parking lanes on both sides of the street, leaving a fourteen foot wide driving lane for both the north and south bound traffic. Although the driving lane is narrow enough that it may justify one side parking only, it may also be wide enough to handle two direction travel safely due to a low traffic flow. South Washington Street north of James Street is about the same width as south of James Street and does have parking restricted to just the west side of the street. The east side is posted No Parking. However, due to the United Health Services parking lot access and egress designations in that area the traffic usage is greater, therefore justifying one side parking only.*

*Caution should be used not to allow any other city street to be restricted to one side parking due to the width of the roadway as the only qualifier. A previous study of this street was done in 2007 and included accident reports for the previous three years. A decision was made then not to restrict parking to one side only. Upon discussing this request with Councilman Chris Papastrat of this district it was thought that with alternate side of the street parking regulation for the winter months taking effect December 1<sup>st</sup> that a delay in the decision should be used to do a more thorough study."*

**No changes should be made at this time.**

*Motion for no changes per Traffic's recommendation.*

Moved by: T. Kellogg, R. Standish

**Motion carried. (Vote 4-0-0)**

Ayes: W. Yeager, G. Scaringi, T. Kellogg, R. Standish

Nays: None

Absent: None

**235 Court Street.** Mark Scoville is representing a new business at this address. They would like to add an entrance at Chapman Street and would like to request that the "no left turn" be removed. Traffic will look into this further and report back in December. Assistant Chief Yeager got a phone number from Mr. Scoville and Mr. Kraham will let him know what the outcome is.

*"The Traffic Division responded to the area of Court Street and Chapman Street to review a request from Mr. Mark Scoville who is representing a client of a new business looking to locate at 235 Court Street and is asking that the sign prohibiting left turns from Court Street north to Chapman Street for east bound traffic be deleted. Mr. Scoville indicated that the new business is looking to insert a new entrance to that location from Chapman Street. Court Street, at that intersection is Route 11, and is a State Controlled intersection providing access and egress to Route 363. Route 11, west bound at that intersection, a three lane roadway, providing a straight through lane, a right turn only lane and a protected left turn lane provided by the traffic control device. The east bound traffic is a single lane only that prohibits left turns. Any change to this intersection must be approved by NYSDOT. A review of the traffic complaints at that intersection for the previous three years indicated nine incidents, as follows:*

- 2013    2 incidents (363 ramp northbound rear ended by second vehicle, 363 ramp northbound left turned in to south bound Chapman Street traffic.)*
- 2014    3 incidents (left turn west bound Court Street into east bound vehicle; Court St. east bound equipment failure into median; Court Street west bound left turn lane rear ended by second vehicle).*
- 2015    4 incidents (east bound Court Street side swiped; east bound Court Street, driver inattention into median; left turn west bound Court Street into east bound vehicle; 363 northbound vehicle into pedestrian in crosswalk).*

*Of all the accidents noted 3 were turn incidents, 2 were rear end, 2 driver inattention, 1 equipment failure and 1 sideswiped incident. None involved were left turn from Court Street, east bound to Chapman Street north bound indicating that compliance to the prohibition. Also, at its present design Court Street east bound is a single lane. In order to provide a safe movement if a left turn was to be inserted by NYSDOT it should be redesigned to provide a left turn only lane for that movement as well as a protected left turn sequence for the traffic control device."*

**167 Conklin Avenue.** The Humane Society is moving to this location and they are requesting a new curb cut coming out onto Conklin Avenue. Traffic feels that if it is too close to Conklin and Telegraph, it will cause a back-up of traffic at the light. Traffic is also questioning the actual need for the curb cut. Traffic will further investigate this with the Humane Society before making a final decision. **Hold until Thursday, February 11, 2015 Traffic Board meeting.**

**101 Main Street.** Request to delete 15 minute zone.

*The Traffic Division observed a contractor demolishing 101 Main Street. The contractor, Gorick Construction, had the sidewalk posted with cones and signs at both ends of the work zone advising that the sidewalk was closed without providing an alternate walking area for pedestrian traffic. The sidewalk was blocked by a water truck and a tractor trailer for debris removal. Upon inquiring from DPW to Engineers to Building Construction as to the issuing of a work permit it was learned that a gradual demolition permit work permit was issued by the Building Construction Office for that project. However, there was no street work permit applied for at the Engineers Office for the sidewalk being blocked as required when pedestrian access to a sidewalk is obstructed. The Traffic Division in reviewing that area observed a 15 minute parking zone posted in front of that location. The zone was originally requested in the past by the proprietor of that location. With the demolition of that location the Traffic Division made an inquiry as to why the building was being demolished, whether it was going to be replaced with another facility that would continue to need the 15 minute zone or could it be deleted. The Building Construction said there was no request for future construction and therefore it appeared not necessary and that the 15 minute zone could be deleted.*

*The Traffic Division therefore request that the Traffic Code be amended as follows:-*

*DELETE: Section 25.2 Fifteen Minute Parking Zone between 8:00 AM and 10:00 PM, Monday through Saturday. Main Street – South Side – from the west end of the property line to 52 feet east.*

***Motion to delete Section 25.2 – Fifteen Minute Parking Zone***

Moved by: T. Kellogg, R. Standish

**Motion carried. (Vote 4-0-0)**

Ayes: W. Yeager, G. Scaringi, T. Kellogg, R. Standish

Nays: None

Absent: None

**Avon Road.** Residents want to be exempt from alternate side parking. Mr. Kellogg recommends keeping the alternate side parking. No changes will be made until more information is retrieved from Mr. Kraham.

**Oak Street - Alternate Parking Exception.** A resident submitted a request to Councilman Motsavage to have the section of Oak Street from Spring Forest to Cypress Street exempt from Alternate side of the street parking in winter months. The resident states it is difficult to get out in snow and ice when cars are parked on Oak Street are facing uphill. *Traffic recommends that it does make sense but everyone agrees that the change shouldn't be made until this season of alternate side parking is finished so that residents who may have gotten tickets don't get upset and complain to the city.* ***Hold until further review.***

**West End Avenue.** Between Highland and Harrison, the East Side is no parking all the time. Mr. Tanner is requesting that this portion of West End Avenue be exempt from alternate side parking. The armory will be reminded of compliance.. No action will be taken.

Adjournment at 10:29 a.m.

Moved by: T. Kellogg, R. Standish

**Motion carried. (Vote 4-0-0)**

Ayes: W. Yeager, G. Scaringi, T. Kellogg, R. Standish

Nays: None

Absent: None